

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 2, 2004 LB 172

abortion is good. I think those are two extremes and I cannot buy either extreme. I think if LB 425 has any advantage to the people of this state it isn't in what happens to the young woman after she becomes pregnant. And I think this is just a key, key critical element that he says, I think the advantage of the bill, again, if there is any, that the knowledge of the bill may give that young woman one more reason to say no when she's being pressured into a sexual situation that she may not desire to get into. It may make that young woman think twice before getting into that situation; that she knows that either alternative to bearing the child, either talking to the parents or going to a court, may not be an advantageous situation. I rather imagine most young women would come to that conclusion. I said that. I think that's where the bill has some impact, he goes on to say, so I don't think...I don't see this as a step back from my initial intent. Secondly, I think I tend to agree with some of the people that object to the Michigan way of dealing with this. I don't think schools ought to be giving specific information on where you can go to get an abortion, how you can bypass the parental notification provision. He thinks, and that was the...that was the intent of the amendment that he offered, that the young woman ought to have the information, period; that that we ought to require. And I will say it again, I am not ashamed that we had that in the original legislation and I will defend it as long as it takes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I would hope that this debate has not been fruitless. I would hope that at least there have been some points raised that make people think about what we're doing here with this bill, this bill that's traveling along on which no amendments are allowed, in which no discussion seems to be pertinent to the bill in the sense that it doesn't allow any amendments. I don't think that's a good way to make legislation. I don't think that's a good way to make public policy. And I would say to you think very carefully. Thank you.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Chambers.